OBJECTION MADE TO ORLEANS TRIP

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Howard Wants to Give Deposition in Calif.

Lawrence Howard Jr., of Los Angeles, Calif., being sought as a material witness in District Attorney Jim Garrison's investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy, is seeking to avoid coming to New Orleans.

Howard, 32, appeared in Los Angeles Superior Court on a show cause hearing why he should not be ordered to New Orleans, and told the court the trip would impose a hardship on him and on his family.

The hearing was continued to Jan. 26. Howard's attorney, Bruce P. Wolfe, said the Los Angeles district attorney does not object to his client's move to avoid returning to New Orleans.

Wolfe said the subpena for Howard's return does not require his appearance in New Orleans until the first week in February.

Howard urged in court that Garrison send a deputy to take his deposition. But he told the court that he has no special information he could provide Garrison toward the investigation.

According to Wolfe, Garrison has very "subtly" labeled Howard a conspirator in the killing of President Kennedy, although he was subpenaed as a material witness only.

In an affidavit accompanying the subpena, Garrison claims that Howard was an associate of David Ferrie, Lee Harvey Oswald and Jack Ruby, according to Wolfe.

Wolfe said he is afraid Howard would be indicted for something if were to appear in New Orleans.

Howard added he does not have any information to give Garrison but said he would give him a reposition in a court of law under oath if Garrison would come to Los Angeles.